

(c) The Government of India has been announcing Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of raw jute annually. Jute Corporation of India Ltd. is official agency to procure raw jute under MSP from the growers. Apart from its own purchase centres, Cooperatives are also involved in MSP operations. During the year 2000-2001, 4.62 lakh bales of raw jute were procured by JCI and Cooperatives under MSP operations.

Forming a corporation for running NTC mills in Kerala

3616. SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:

SHRI J. CHITHRANJAN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to form a corporation for running, reviving and modernising the NTC mills in Kerala; and

(b) if not, how Government propose to revive NTC mills in Kerala;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) No Sir.

(b) As per Govt's approach, all revivable mills will be revived through NTC(HC) and the concerned NTC Subsidiary, subject to the approval of BIFR.

Problems of the handloom sector

3617. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the problems in the handloom sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to resolve these problems;

(d) whether the matter was discussed in the last State Textile Ministers Conference held at New Delhi; and

(e) if so, the opinion expressed by various States in the matter?